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Obituary



The sudden and tragic demise of Dr Prasanna Nyayadhish on 3rd January 2013 has been a devastating blow for the Cardiology community all over the country. A brilliant career has been cut short at its peak, plunging all his friends, colleagues, and students into a deep sense of gloom.

Dr Nyayadhish spent his formative years at the village of Sakharwadi in district Satara, near Pune. After a bachelor's degree from BJ Medical College, Pune in 1992, he received his MD degree in Medicine from the University of Pune in 1996. Always a brilliant student, he was one of the top rankers at the All India Super-speciality Entrance Exam held in 1996. He completed his residency in DM Cardiology in 2000. He also successfully obtained the Diplomate of the National Board of Examinations (DNB in Cardiology). Dr Nyayadhish joined as a full time faculty member in the Department of Cardiology, KEM Hospital in 2001, eventually rising to the post of Professor and Unit Head in 2008 – a post he held till his demise.

Dr Nyayadhish was an excellent all round Cardiologist. He was a fine clinician with great powers of observation and analytical skills. He had a deep knowledge of echocardiography, and was especially renowned for his abilities in performing and interpreting echocardiograms in complex congenital heart diseases. In addition, he was a highly skilled interventionist – performing the full gamut of cardiac procedures, ranging from balloon atrial septostomies in one-day-old neonates to complex coronary interventions in octogenarians. Along with other faculty, he was responsible for taking Pediatric and Structural heart services at the KEM hospital to newer heights, making the department one of its kind in the public health centers in Western India.

Dr Nyayadhish had a friendly and jovial nature. His keen sense of humor and brilliant repartees made him the life and soul of gatherings, and his circle of friends extended far beyond the narrow confines of the medical profession. He was generous to a fault, warm hearted, and ever ready to help his colleagues and patients in their times of need. In private practice, he was respected as much for his ethical and rational decision making as for his interventional skills.

Dr Nyayadhish was always supportive of research, and encouraged his residents and faculty to find time from their clinical work to present and publish research papers. He was a superb teacher. Along with other senior teachers, he had set up a teaching academy in the city of Mumbai, for training DM and DNB students in clinical cardiology, echocardiography, and cardiac catheterization – all free of charge. The sessions held by this academy proved to be hugely popular over the last seven to eight years with trainees all over the country. Dr Nyayadhish was a fine speaker – his deep knowledge of the subject and unique presentation style made him a regular fixture as a speaker or faculty in all the important Cardiology conferences and workshops.

The passing of Dr Nyayadhish has been a personal blow for me – I have lost one of my most valuable faculty members and a close personal friend. The thoughts of all of us are with his wife Mrs Lovlyn Nyayadhish and their two young sons in this difficult time. Let us pray to the Almighty to grant us strength in bearing this loss. May the departed soul rest in eternal peace.

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Dr. N.N. Asokan, a long-standing member of Cardiological Society of India from Muvattupuzha, Kerala expired recently following a brief illness.

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